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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/824,262	04/02/2001	Jacklyn M. Dowdy	10004864-1	1534

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EXAMINER

MILIA, MARK R

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2622

DATE MAILED: 07/15/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/824,262	DOWDY, JACKLYN M.
Examiner	Art Unit	
Mark R. Milia	2622	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 February 2005.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Applicant's amendment was received on 2/8/05, and has been entered and made of record. Currently, claims 1-20 are pending.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments, see pages 6-7, filed 2/8/05, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 1-20, more specifically claims 1, 8, and 15 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of the currently amended claims and newly found prior art references.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shimizu in view of U.S. Patent No. 6427032 to Irons et al.

Regarding claims 1, 8, and 15, Shimizu discloses a document management system comprising: (a) an imaging device configured to create an image of a document (see column 1 lines 10-14, column 9 lines 6-8 and 30-31, column 10 lines 5-9, and column 19 lines 56-61), (b) a keyword identifier configured to identify at least one keyword in the document image (see Fig. 12 and column 12 lines 46-49), (c) a document labeler configured to generate a name for the document image from the at least one keyword (see column 19 lines 1-5), and (d) a storage system configured to store the document image with the name for the document image as the name of the document image (see column 19 lines 50-61).

Shimizu does not disclose expressly a label affixed to the document containing identification information related to the document.

Irons discloses a label affixed to a document containing identification information related to the document and a system that utilizes the identification information to image, store, and manage the documents (see Figs. 1, 2, 6, and 7, abstract, column 6 lines 31-39 and 61, column 7 lines 1-5 and 13-33, and column 9 lines 39-50).

Shimizu & Irons are combinable because they are from the same field of endeavor, input and processing of image documents to image, store, and manage documents.

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine the label being affixed to a document aspect of Irons with the system of Shimizu.

The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been to provide a system to quickly and easily control the identification, indexing, and storage of documents by the use of labels affixed to the documents that will be scanned and stored in memory (see column 4 lines 41-61 of Irons). The affixing of labels to documents for identification purposes is well known in the art.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Irons with Shimizu to obtain the invention as specified in claims 1, 8, and 15.

Regarding claims 2, 9, and 16, Shimizu and Irons disclose the system discussed above in claims 1, 8, and 15, and Shimizu further discloses wherein the keyword identifier includes an optical character recognizer configured to recognize characters in the document image (see Fig. 12 and column 12 lines 41-46).

Regarding claims 3, 10, and 17, Shimizu and Irons disclose the system discussed above in claims 2, 9, and 16, and Shimizu further discloses wherein the keyword identifier includes a word detector configured to detect words from characters recognized in the document image (see column 9 lines 13-15).

Regarding claims 4, 11, and 18, Shimizu and Irons disclose the system discussed above in claims 1, 8, and 15, and Shimizu further discloses wherein the

keyword identifier includes a field locator configured to locate keyword fields in the document image (see Figs. 9 and 10 and column 12 line 60-column 13 line 3).

Regarding claim 5, Shimizu and Irons disclose the system discussed above in claim 1, and Shimizu further discloses wherein the storage system includes a document storage device (see Fig. 58).

Regarding claim 6, Shimizu and Irons disclose the system discussed above in claim 1, and Shimizu further discloses wherein the storage system includes a file system (see Fig. 2 and column 10 lines 1-4).

Regarding claims 7 and 14, Shimizu and Irons disclose the system discussed above in claims 1 and 8, and Shimizu further discloses wherein the storage system includes a database (see Fig. 12 and column 12 lines 47-49).

Regarding claims 12 and 19, Shimizu and Irons disclose the system discussed above in claims 11 and 18, and Shimizu further discloses wherein locating keyword fields includes: (a) detecting a field indicator within the document image (see column 12 line 60-column 13 line 3), and (b) locating the keyword fields relative to the field indicator (see column 12 line 60-column 13 line 3).

Regarding claims 13 and 20, Shimizu and Irons disclose the system discussed above in claims 11 and 18, and Shimizu further discloses wherein locating keyword fields includes searching for the keyword fields in a selected location of the document image (see column 12 line 60-column 13 line 3).

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. To further show the state of the art refer to U.S. Patent number 6192165 (Irons).
5. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mark R. Milia whose telephone number is (571) 272-7408. The examiner can normally be reached M-F 8:00am-4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward Coles can be reached at (571) 272-7402. The fax number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Mark R. Milia
Examiner
Art Unit 2622

MRM

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